

# SSI ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT: 1998

This report is intended to be a source document describing the SSI program and the people who receive benefits from the program. Tables and charts in the report cover a series of topics:

- Federal payment standards
- Recipient characteristics
- State-administered supplementation
- Cross program payments
- Living arrangements
- Noncitizens
- Disability types
- Work incentives
- Applications
- Awards
- Denials
- Suspensions

## Changes for 1998:

For 1998, there have been several changes. First you will notice the inclusion of five color charts that highlight the SSI program status as of December 1998, and place the current status in some historical perspective.

We have also added sections on noncitizens and cross-program benefits. The data on noncitizens have been incorporated from a popular in-house report, and show the changes in noncitizen program participation resulting from the 1996 Welfare Reform legislation. The cross-program tables give a better picture of the relationship between the SSI and OASDI programs. Many SSI recipients, especially elderly recipients, also receive a Social Security benefit.

Also added is a table (3) with total dollars spent under the SSI program for the calendar year. Tables on money amounts normally appear as dollar averages in the Yellow Book. We thought it would be useful to add an historical table showing total dollars expended in a calendar year. These figures are slightly higher than those obtained from the tables showing average dollars, because they contain retroactive amounts typically paid at the point of award. The tables showing dollar averages do not include these retroactive amounts.

Finally, we have made some revisions to the data on applications. The 1997 report reflected the year in which the application was credited. Since that application date can be changed by SSA field offices, our annual report totals couldn't be made final until the next year's report. By switching to the date when the application record was established, the 1998 report totals are final for the current year. All years in the time series have been updated to reflect this change.